

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L PARAMARIBO 765

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR PBOR EFIS NS GY

SUBJ: GUYANESE AND SURINAMERS MOVING TOWARD AGREEMENT?

1. VISITING SECRETARY OF GUYANA FISHERMEN'S COOPERATIVE (KHAN) TOLD EMBOFF MAY 25 THAT GUYANESE ATTORNEY LLOYD LUCKHOO IS EXPECTED IN PARAMARIBO WEEKEND OF MAY 26 AND WILL LIKELY BRING A MESSAGE FROM GUYANESE PRIME MINISTER BURNHAM TO SURINAM'S PRIME MINISTER ARRON. KHAN SAID HE HAD MET WITH LUCKHOO LAST WEEK AND HAD BEEN ASSURED THAT THE SEIZED SURINAM TRAWLER CORANTIJN RIVER FISHING LICENSES DISPUTE BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES WOULD BE TAKEN CARE OF BY THE END OF THE WEEK OF MAY 29.

2. ACCORDING TO KHAN, LUCKHOO, WHO HAS REPRESENTED SURINAM AMERICAN INDUSTRIES LTD. (SAIL, A SUBSIDIARY OF CASTLE AND COOKE) AND THE SUGAN FISHING COMPANY (GOS JOINT VENTURE WITH SAIL) ON THE CASE OF THE SUGAM 26 TRAWLER SEIZED BY THE GUYANESE IN SEPTEMBER 1977, WILL LIKELY DELIVER THE MESSAGE DESTINED FOR ARRON TO SURINAM LAWYER KENNETH GONCALVES, WHO IS LOCAL ATTORNEY FOR SAIL. ASKED BY EMBOFF IF IT COULD BE DEDUCED THAT MESSAGE ORIGINATES FROM BURNHAM HIMSELF, KHAN REPLIED AFFIRMATIVELY. LUCKHOO, ACCORDING
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TO KHAN, FURTHER STATED THAT THE GUYANESE GOVERNMENT (GOG) WILL BE PREPARED TO RELEASE THE SURINAMESE TRAWLER AS PART OF THE DEAL, PRESUMABLY IN EXCHANGE FOR RENEWED LICENSES FOR GUYANESE TO FISH IN THE CORANTIJN. KHAN AVERRED THAT LEGAL TECHNICALITIES AS WELL AS GOG PREOCCUPATION WITH AND PERHAPS MISINFORMATION IN GEORGETOWN HAD HELD UP THIS SOLUTION WHICH WAS FIRST PROPOSED DURING THE ABORTIVE VISIT

TO PARAMARIBO BY GUYANA'S FORMER FOREIGN MINISTER WILLS IN
FEBRUARY.

3. GUYANESE EMBASSY HAS CONFIRMED--ADDITING THAT OFFICIALLY
THEY ARE NOT AWARE OF LUCKHOO'S REPORTED VISIT--THAT LUCKHOO
WAS TO ARRIVE EVENING OF MAY 25 AND WOULD PROBABLY BE IN
PARAMARIBO OVER THE WEEKEND. A CASTLE AND COOKE VICE
PRESIDENT AND AN ATTORNEY ARE ALSO IN PARAMARIBO AT THE
MOMENT AND THEY, GONCALVES, AND LUCKHOO WILL BE DISCUSSING
THE LEGAL QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE SUGAM CASE.
ZURHELLEN

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